

**Arkansas State Strategic Planning Meeting
Center on the Social and Emotional Foundations for Early Learning
Little Rock, Arkansas
August 19 & 20, 2003**

VISION:

The hope of each child will be realized through healthy families and communities that connect social and emotional well being with future success.

MISSION:

To promote an integrated system designed to focus on the fundamental importance of social and emotional well being by:

- ❖ **Increasing public awareness;**
- ❖ **Facilitating training;**
- ❖ **Developing the capacity for resources and personnel.**

VALUES:

Hope
Faith
Consideration
Friends
Art/Music
Health
Freedom
Integrity
Civil Liberties
Good Work
Ethics
Beauty
Trust
Honesty
Happiness
Trustworthy
Ability to work
Perseverance
Children
Love
Giving
Purpose
Respect

GOALS:

1) Public Awareness –

Action Steps:

- a) Identify the needs of children in the state. (By Oct. 15, 2003)
- b) Identify task force to develop a plan for increased public awareness. (Goal group will complete by Sept. 1, 2003)
- c) Utilize/update the existing matrix to assess current capacity. (The Division will complete this by Oct. 15, 2003)
- d) Identify resources (human & financial) to assist in plan development. (Eva Carter will complete this by Oct. 1, 2003)
- e) Identify target audiences. (The task force will complete this by Nov. 2003)
- f) Identify the message for each audience. (The task force will complete this by Dec. 2003)
- g) Identify the messenger utilizing the existing networks. (The task force will complete this by Dec. 2003)
- h) Develop a logo for early childhood system. (The task force will complete this by Dec. 2003)
- i) Develop the plan. (The task force will complete this by May 2004)

2) Building capacity, resources and personnel –

Action Steps:

- a) Update/expand the matrix (1999), add mental health. (By Nov. 2003)
- b) Identify other stakeholders (other work groups, fiscal, school administration, school of public health, A&D representatives).
- c) Build/expand the current infrastructure including policy updates and revisions. (By Jan. 2004)
- d) Training and education for public, parents, providers, (i.e., early childhood, mental health, medical, higher education). (See Dr. Cooper)

3) Training –

All people involved with the child have a basic level of knowledge and skills related to social and emotional learning, prevention and early intervention.

Action Steps:

- a) Research what is currently available for training. (Completed in year 1)
- b) Develop curriculum for training. (Completed in year 1-2)
- c) Train the trainer. (Completed in year 3)
- d) Mentoring/modeling. (Completed in year 3)

Partners: State level leaders/policy makers, providers, families.

To ensure that the public mental health system has the capacity, knowledge and skills on a statewide basis to appropriately assess and treat mental health issues in the early childhood population.

Action Steps:

- a) Identify core competencies. (CSEFEL to assist) (Completed by Dec. 2003)
- b) Identify funding required (Completed by Oct. 2003)
- c) Provide training for identified early childhood specialists from all CMHC's. (Completed by April 2004)
- d) Establish ongoing supports/technical assistance. (In place by May 2004)
- e) Data and outcomes.

Current Activities:

Partnership – UAMS, Head Start, PCA and CMHC. (Providing training, parent education and direct treatment).

DOE – Special Education Training on social and emotional 0-21

Contract obligations for ECH Liaison in each CMHC.

GAPS IDENTIFIED:

- 1) Lack of MH Consultant with expertise in early years.
- 2) Professional preparation.
- 3) Lack of knowledge on how to access resources (0-3 yrs).
- 4) Lack of training for the MH professionals in each (15) mental health centers.
- 5) Define what we mean by “expertise”.
- 6) Lack of provider knowledge on what is a true behavior problem and what is normal behavior.
- 7) Lack of appropriate curriculum.
- 8) Lack of training for parents.
- 9) Lack of the awareness of the importance of social and emotional development.
- 10) Matrix of services.
- 11) Information on assessment and screening.
- 12) Mentoring programs.
- 13) Lack of support from the legislature.
- 14) Lack of collaboration between the public schools and others.

NEXT STEPS:

- 1) Provide information about current grants to the group and then follow up with updates periodically. (Kathy Stegal will get this out to the group).

- 2) Include substance abuse representative in this group. (Ann Patterson and Anne Wells will do this)
- 3) Type meeting notes and send them to Kathy Stegal. (Nancy Gordon will do this by August 25th)
- 4) Send notes out to the group. (Kathy Stegal will do this).
- 5) Follow up meeting scheduled for September 30, 2003. (half day meeting)
(Ann Patterson will find a place and let everyone know.)
- 6) Review Curriculum developed by CSEFEL staff. (Ann Patterson, Anne Wells, Carol Lee and Kathy Stegal)
- 7) Conference call with Nancy Gordon, Rob Corso (CSEFEL staff) to talk about the training and who would be involved. Conference call set for September 18, 2003 @ 9:00am.
- 8) Agenda items for the September 30th meeting: Report from the curriculum committee, identify who is to do what in each goal.
- 9) Conference call to talk about lessons learned in Oklahoma. (Eva and Janie)